

### REMARKS

The Office Action of June 14, 2007, has been carefully considered.

Objection has been raised to the drawings on the basis of improper cross-hatching in Figures 1-4. Submitted herewith is a replacement sheet including these figures, together with a marked-up copy showing changes made to the previous version.

Objection has been raised to the abstract and specification and appropriate amendments have been made to the abstract and specification to remove the objections cited.

Claims 12 and 16 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite on several grounds. The claims of record have now been entirely rewritten as new Claims 23 through 43, in proper form for U.S. practice.

Regarding Claim 16, now Claim 37, it is noted that the new claim specifically recites that the longitudinal element of Claim 23 is an optical fiber or nano fiber. Thus, Claim 37 makes proper reference to this element of the invention.

Withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Claims 1-4, 7-9, 11-14 and 16 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Robillot, while Claims 5-6, 10, 17 and 22 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Robillot in view of Applicant's admission of prior art.

New Claim 23 includes elements of original Claims 1 and 2, and recites a string device comprising a passive structural core element formed of an electrically insulating material and at least two active longitudinal elements each being capable of transferring at least one of an electrical signal, an optical signal, a pneumatic signal and electrical power. The core element has a surface on, or adjacent, which is arranged at least two tracks in which the longitudinal elements are disposed, with at least one of the elements being disposed in each of the tracks. These active longitudinal elements are

constructed and arranged to be accessible from an outer surface of the string device.

The Robillot patent is directed essentially to a mechanically robust alarm cable designed to withstand fire, building collapse during fire and tampering. The device is similar to those on the market, and utilizes twisted pairs of insulated wire, with insulation on the twisted pairs that is destroyed when exposed to sufficient heat, causing a short circuit. At the receiver, the Robillot wires must be split and separated from the cable, the insulation removed, and the wires separately attached to the receiver.

Figures 2 and 4 of Robillot show a core element having tracks on its surface in which the twisted pairs are disposed. However, the device of Robillot differs from the claimed invention in that the core p is a metal conductor, as is the outer tube e. The core element is therefore not a *passive* structural element formed of an electrically insulating material, and moreover the conductors of Robillot, the twisted pairs, are not accessible from the outer surface of the device.

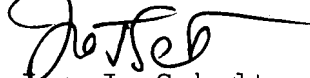
The claimed invention, contrary to Robillot, enables attachment to a detector utilizing a conducting layer near the surface which is accessible for crimping. Thus, the claimed invention enables a plug-free cable design since *the cable end acts as a plug*. Robillot does not disclose or suggest a cable connector system, but claims only a line heat detector, a cable with a tamper resistant design which is resistant as well to mechanical damage. The important elements of Robillot are the metallic core and the metallic outer tube, and the wires of Robillot must therefore be insulated.

Given the substantial structural differences between Robillot and the claimed invention, withdrawal of these rejections is requested.

The allowability of Claims 15, 18, 19, 20 and 21 has been noted.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the present application is now in condition for allowance. An early allowance of the application with amended claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Ira J. Schultz  
Registration No. 28666  
Attorney for Applicants  
(703)837-9600, ext. 23

LAW OFFICES  
DENNISON, SCHULTZ & MACDONALD  
SUITE 105  
1727 KING STREET  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314-2700  
703 837-9600